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REVIEW 1951 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, 1952 PLANS
FOR RSFSR CITY CONSTRUCTION, PUBLIC SERVICES

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

At present, 68 of the largest industrial cities of the RSFSR have long-range plans for housing, civil, and industrial construction.(1) In 1951, 80,000 apartments in towns of the RSFSR were added to those receiving gas.(2) The distribution of gas for communal needs in the large towns of the RSFSR increased 6.5 times over 1946. In the last 5 years the number of apartments receiving gas has increased seven times.(3) The use of natural gas has great possibilities since it does not require special pipes. Natural gas can be kept in special cisterns and cylinders. One 45-kilogram cylinder can supply enough fuel to prepare food for a family of five for 2-2½ months. Experience has shown that a gas supply can be organized for 500 subscribers in a small town in 4-5 months.(4) The 1952 plan calls for the construction of new and the expansion of old water pipelines in 81 towns of the RSFSR, of sewage systems in 42 towns, and of streetcar and trolley bus lines in 40 towns.(3)

In Leningrad City and Oblast, state enterprises, institutions, and local soviets, as well as the population of towns and workers' settlements, with the aid of state credit built 451,600 square meters of living space in 1951. As compared to 1950, the number of 7-year and secondary schools increased by 29, and the number of movie installations by 64 units in 1951. The output of gas increased 26 percent, and of water 20 percent in the towns of Leningrad Oblast.(5)

In Leningrad City, 305,700 square meters of new living space were put into use in 1951; of this amount, 34,100 square meters of living space were built by local soviets. In addition, two new schools were built for 1,760 students.(6) The 1951 plan for capital repairs in Leningrad was fulfilled successfully. Of the 7 million square meters of iron roofing replaced in the last 3 years, about 2 million square meters (7), or 108 percent of the year plan, were replaced in 1951.(8) Furthermore, 238,000 square meters of dilapidated floors and ceilings

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were replaced. The interiors of 156 houses were replanned, modernized, and conveniences provided.(7) The repair-construction trusts of Leningrad City fulfilled their 1951 assignment 100.7 percent, achieving the best results in Stalin-skiy, Oktyabr'skiy, Kalininskiy, Kirovskiy, Pushkinskiy, and Sestroretskiy ray-ons.(6)

The progress of construction was not always even throughout 1951 (9), and individual plants failed to put the planned amount of living space into operation. (6) In the first 6 months of 1951, the expenditures of trusts were far greater than the established estimate. Overexpenditures not only stopped in the third quarter, but considerable reductions in the estimated cost of work were made. The increase in labor productivity and the early fulfillment of the production plan were the chief factors in reducing the cost of construction. As compared to 1950, the output of workers in 1951 increased 25.9 percent. About half of the total volume of residential construction was prefabricated. The construction of one square meter of living space in the usual brick house takes 20-22 man-days, while in a prefabricated house it takes only 9-10 man-days. Four 5-story houses on prospekt imeni Stalina with a total 12,000 square meters of living space were built in 6-7 months each.(9)

By supplying 25,870 additional apartments with gas (6), the number receiving gas in Leningrad has been increased to over 149,000. By putting 82 kilometers of street gas mains into operation, the total length of the gas network in Leningrad has been brought to 402 kilometers.(10) More than 60 percent of the apartments in Leningrad houses and a row of enterprises now receive gas.(11) In 1951, the output of gas in Leningrad increased 24 percent over 1950.(5) Preparations are being made for supplying gas to the Vyborgskaya storona (side) of Leningrad. In 1951, pipe links which connect Vyborgskaya storona with the central part of the city and Petrogradskaya storona were laid across the Bol'shaya Nevka and the Neva.(12) They will furnish shale gas to the Vyborgskaya storona and Petrogradskaya storona.(13) Recently, another pipe link was laid under the Neva which is to complete the circle of the gas pipeline connecting all rayons in town. It will furnish gas to all the island regions in Leningrad, and provide Stalin'skiy and Kalininskiy rayons with the possibility of supplying gas to additional apartments. Gas mains are now being lengthened by 60 kilometers.(12)

In Smol'ninskiy Rayon, 138 houses with a total interior space of 2 million cubic meters were converted from stove heat to the central heating system; 64 houses with a total interior space of up to 1.5 million cubic meters were also converted from stove heating, and were provided with specially installed local boilers for heating.(7)

The 1951 plan for construction of new and capital repair of old water pipelines, sewerage, and electric network was exceeded.(8) The capital repair of inside and outside water pipelines was carried out in 288 houses; in 203 houses capital repair of the sewage system was completed; and in 348 houses the electric lines had to be rebuilt.(7)

In 1951, the construction and capital repair of 830,000 square meters of roads and sidewalks were completed.(14) The complex reconstruction of Nevskiy prospekt and Kirovskiy prospekt has been carried out, and underground communication lines have been restored, the street lighting reinforced, and adjoining streets covered with asphalt. On the outskirts of town, 100 streets have been lit once more with street lights. Leningrad now has 41,428 street lights, as compared with 30,335 in the prewar period.

The 1952 plan calls for putting more than 300,000 square meters of living space into use. More than 45 multistory residential buildings with a total area of more than 130,000 square meters are under construction on prospekt imeni Stalina. Some 400 residential houses will be under construction in the whole of Leningrad in 1952. No fewer than 147 houses must be put into use in 1952, and three schools must be finished in the same year, while a fourth must be ready in 1953.(6)

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In 1952, 17,500 additional apartments are to receive gas, so that by the end of 1952, gas will be used in 170,000 apartments.(15)

The reconstruction and asphaltting of 180,000 square meters of roads and sidewalks is foreseen for 1952. Furthermore, 105 new autobusses will be received.

One of the most important problems for 1952 is the centralization of freight transportation, which has proved so economical in Moscow. On 1 February 1952, the executive committee of the Leningrad Soviet decided to centralize the transport of brick from seven city and oblast brick plants, regardless of whose jurisdiction they are under. Such an arrangement can not only save 10 million rubles, but reduce the number of motor vehicles used in hauling brick three times and cut the number of loaders employed almost ten times.(6)

In Arkhangel'sk Oblast, a large house-building combine is under construction in the town of Kotlas. A small settlement is being built for the river transport workers of Kotlas. Seven 2-story houses are already finished. A four-story stone school building is being put up for the children of railroad workers.(16)

Of the 2,346 houses in prewar Novgorod, only 40 burned-out shells remained when the city was liberated from the Germans. Since then, 1,877 buildings with a total area of 157,000 square meters have been built. Construction is being completed on all-mash, brick, and repair-machine plants, as well as on furniture and macaroni factories.(17)

The expenditure for residential construction in the city of Smolensk in 1951 was almost double that of 1950. About 80 new houses were finished in 1951.(18)

On 29 January 1952, 52 new houses were opened for use in the southern settlement of the city of Tula for the miners of Skuratovugol' Trust. The Tulaugol' Combine plans to spend 100 million rubles for housing construction in 1952. Miners will receive 60,000 square meters of living space and more than 20 cultural and communal institutions.(11)

The course of construction in the city of Kursk has been criticized, even though more than 150,000 square meters of living space have been built there since the war. In 1951, more funds were allotted than used, and the quality of construction was poor. Construction in the central part of town is particularly slow.(19)

In Kerch, 70,000 square meters of new living space have been put into use and 50,000 square meters restored since World War II. More than 90 buildings were put into use in 1951. The Primorskaya naberezhnaya (embankment) in the center of town has been improved.(20)

In Stavropol', 83,000 square meters of road and sidewalk have been covered with asphalt; 98,000 square meters of road have been built on the outskirts of town.

Capital repairs were completed on 52,000 square meters of roads and sidewalks in Pyatigorsk.(21)

In Rostov-on-Don, 108 multistory residential buildings were put into use in 1951. Excellent-quality residential houses have been built on ploshchad' imeni Molotova.(22)

More than 1,400,000 square meters of living space have been built in the city of Stalingrad.(23) In 1951, Stalingrad received more than 200,000 square meters of living space. The volume of residential construction is to be tripled in

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1952.(24) Complaints have been made about the use of construction machinery in Stalingrad. The excavators of Stalingradmetallurgstroy are idle 40 percent of working time, the caterpillar cranes 32 percent, the tower cranes about 20 percent, and the mechanical loaders 62 percent of working time. Tower cranes are kept idle in some places for months, while they are needed elsewhere.(25)

In the city of Saratov, more than 43,000 square meters of living space were put into use in 1951. Extensive residential construction is going on in the center of town, where people are settling in five-story houses on ulitsa imeni Radishcheva and ulitsa imeni Gor'kogo. Gas facilities are being expanded, and 13,500 gas stoves have been installed in workers' homes. Tens of millions of cubic meters of natural gas are supplied to Moscow by the Saratov-Moscow gas pipeline.(26)

In Komsomol'sk-na-Volge, which is rapidly becoming a town. 60 two-story residential houses, as well as several buildings for cultural and communal institutions, were built in 1951. More than 3,000 persons live in bright and comfortable apartments. There is a club for 500 in the center of town. At present, 17 new residential buildings are being finished, and a mechanical bakery will be put into operation in the near future. A water pipeline is being laid in town.(27)

The former workers' settlement of Zhigulevsk has become a town, according to a ukase of the Presidium, Supreme Soviet RSFSR.(28) The original settlement was designed for the workers and employees of the "Stavropol'neft" Trust. Blocks of multistory buildings have since been constructed for the builders of the Kuybyshev GES, and several large administrative buildings are being completed for petroleum workers. Schools, medical and cultural institutions, stores, and bakeries have been opened. A railroad crosses the mountain ridge and connects Zhigulevsk with Syzran'. New enterprises have sprung up on the outskirts of Zhigulevsk, which is to become a large Volga port with numerous mechanized piers.(29)

By ukase of the Presidium, Supreme Soviet RSFSR, the workers' settlement of Novokuybyshevsk has become a town. Its housing resources amount to tens of thousands of square meters of living space; it also has primary and secondary schools, hospitals, stores, kindergartens, a library, and a movie theater. The town has a large park of culture and rest.(28)

The growing city of Magnitogorsk has expanded from the right bank of the Ural River, where it began, to the left bank, where one fourth of the metallurgists residing in the city now live. The city, whose total area has increased six times in recent years, is growing in accordance with a general plan established by the government.(30) In 1951, 11,200 square meters of living space were put into use above the plan (31) and construction began on 1.5-kilometer prospekt Metallurgov on the left bank of the Ural River. Magnitogorsk's first tall building will be put up on the corner of prospekt Stalina, the city's main street, and prospekt Metallurgov. Of the ten blocks now under construction on prospekt Metallurgov, four are in use and settled.(32) The 1952 plan calls for putting 40,000 square meters of living space into operation (31), for the completion of prospekt Metallurgov by the end of 1952, for the construction of multistory houses with all conveniences, a large department store, an automatic telephone exchange, a new meat combine, a milk plant, a park, and a stadium.(30)

In the Bashkir ASSR, the installation of 38 kilometers of gas pipelines is planned in the cities of Ufa and Chernikovsk. By the end of 1952, 400 apartments must be supplied with gas in Ufa, and 850 in Chernikovsk.(33)

Construction continues in the Bashkir petroleum town of Oktyabr'skiy. Prospekt imeni Stalina, the main street, is now under construction, and the building of a House of Engineering is nearing completion. The pride of the town

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is the new hospital which is acknowledged to be the best in Bashkir ASSR. A building for surgery with 210 beds was recently put into operation. At present, the following are under construction: a petroleum tekhnikum, a secondary school, a tuberculosis sanatorium, a kindergarten, day nurseries, a communal bath with an automatic laundry, restaurants, a club for construction workers, and several shops. The first section of the city sewage system has been installed.(34)

In the city of Molotov, 9,000 square meters of living space were put into use in Stalinskiy Rayon in 1951. A new streetcar line has been built between the settlement imeni Stalina and the phonograph plant. A stadium and the Club imeni Kalinina have also been built, as well as a 400-seat movie theater and a palace of culture with an auditorium for 1,200.(35)

Twenty years ago, Kizel was the only town in the Kizelovskiy coal basin. Since then the settlements of Gubakha and Aleksandrovsk have grown into towns, and the towns of Kospash and Gremyachinsk have sprung up. In 1952, the Molotovskiy Combine received 86 million rubles for residential and cultural construction. A new hospital is being built in Gremyachinsk, while club buildings are being finished in the center of town, and beside mine No 76. Much construction work is going on in Kizel, Kospash, and Gubakha.(36)

Chkalovskiy is the youngest rayon in the city of Sverdlovsk. Some 20,000 square meters of living space were put into operation in 1951, and over 500 families of workers, employees, and specialists received apartments in new houses. A 10-year school for 1,000 students is to be put into operation at the beginning of the current school year, and all children are to be taught in one shift. The rayon also has a machine-building tekhnikum and an industrial school.(37)

In Nizhniy-Tagil, a town in Sverdlovsk Oblast, 153 multiapartment buildings have been constructed for the workers of the Novo-Tagil'skiy Plant. Thousands of families received improved apartments in 1951. The 1952 plan calls for putting into use 25,000 square meters of living space, day nurseries, a school, and a palace of culture.(38)

In the city of Chelyabinsk, 102,000 square meters of living space, six new schools, seven hospital buildings, two movie theaters, six children's institutions, two libraries, and 20 new stores and restaurants were put into use in 1951.(39)

Novosibirsk, one of the largest industrial and cultural centers in the country, received about 60,000 square meters of living space in 1951. New schools, stores, day nurseries, kindergartens, and teaching institutions have also been put into use. By the end of 1952, more than 100,000 square meters of new living space, three schools, two clubs, four hospitals, and 17 kindergartens and day nurseries must be put into use. An area of 150,000 square meters of road and sidewalk must be asphalted.(40) Preparatory work is being carried out on the construction of a metal bridge over the Ob' River which will connect the center of town with industrial Kirovskiy Rayon. Two piers and the abutments on the right side must be built in 1952.(41)

In 1951, 65 multiapartment houses were built in the city of Tomsk. Two primary schools, one secondary school, and a children's hospital were opened in Vokzal'niy Rayon. The construction of a two-story 7-year school has been completed in Kirovskiy Rayon. The polyclinic for stomatology has begun to operate in a new building, and its students are to receive new six-story living quarters. The new streets in town include Sevastopol'skaya, Nevskaya, imeni Michurina, Nakhimova, Suvorova, Kotovskogo, and Ivana Chernykh.(35) Although a sufficient number of buses and taxis operate in Tomsk, a complaint has been made about poor service.(42)

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In the large Siberian industrial center of Stalinsk, more than 100,000 square meters of living space, 81 schools, 20 tekhnikums, four institutes, theaters, clubs, libraries, and museums were put into operation in 1951.(43) In 1952, metallurgists of Kuznetskiy Combine and miners are to receive more than 40,000 square meters of living space.(44)

Kyakhta is the center of one of the southern rayons of the Buryat-Mongol ASSR. It has a pedagogical school, an agricultural tekhnikum, several primary, 7-year, and secondary schools, a wired radio relay center, a movie theater, a stadium, and a park.(45)

The Siberian town of Chita has grown in the postwar period. More than 62,000 square meters of living space and 93 schools have been put into use in the last 3 years. Plans call for the construction of a hotel with 250 room or apartment numbers, and of buildings for mining and forestry engineering tekhnikums. The absence of a general city construction plan hinders the proper placement of new constructions, and the solution of construction problems.(46)

Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy is the oldest Russian town on the Pacific. Builders put dozens of residential houses, several cultural and communal service buildings, and new streets into operation in 1951.(47) A new settlement for sailors is springing up on Krasnaya sapka. Six 8-apartment houses and a hospital are being put into operation, and construction is beginning on a rest home for sailors.(6) The 1952 plan calls for the construction of a secondary school, a movie theater, a furniture factory, and several residential houses.(47)

The southern part of Sakhalin Island is undergoing improvement. In Kholmsk, new buildings have recently been put up on Sovetskaya ulitsa, the main street. Whole blocks of stone houses have been built in the northern part of Nevel'sk, a town of fishermen. Multiapartment houses and administrative buildings are under construction in Korsakov, Dolinsk, Aniva, Lesogorsk, and other towns on Sakhalin.(14)

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